# **Fast Foods**

#### Lesson Plan for Instructor



# **Objectives:**

To enable participants to make lower fat, lower calorie selections at fast food restaurants. To review ways to find out calorie and fat content of fast foods. To review ordering tips.

#### **Materials:**

Dry erase board or flip chart and appropriate markers

Paper for participants to write on and pens/pencils

Optional, if available – Internet access to or overheads and projector to show fast food nutrition charts

### Handout(s):

Fast Food Alternatives
Sample menus or fast food calorie charts (if available)

## **Suggested Format for Discussion:**

- Ask participants how often they typically eat out at fast food restaurants each week.
   Talk about typical meal selections and write several responses on the board or flip chart.
- Ask for suggestions to make fast food selections healthier. Write down responses.
- Show how to access websites for menu/calorie information on fast foods. May use
  internet or overheads/handouts. For participants who do not have internet access
  available to them, suggest that they ask the manager of the fast food restaurant or
  contact the main office/customer service of the chain for the nutrition information.
- Write down a sample menu and have participants make it healthier by changing serving sizes or substituting foods. Choose different types of restaurants and menus for practice.
- Review ways to make healthy condiment selections make a two column list. Use one side for low fat/Calorie condiments and the other for high fat/Calorie condiments. Have participants give examples for each side.
- Distribute the handout(s) and discuss any ideas not covered.
- Have participants write down several goals/Calorie saving tips to use the next time they
  order fast food. Overall encourage reduced frequency to fast food restaurants.
   Suggest that if they do eat at a fast food restaurant to choose one that they know has
  healthy options available.



